CONGRESS.

Opening of the Third Session of the Forty-first Congress.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

Cause of the Late Republican Reverses.

Our Policy Towards the Fighting Powers in Europe.

THE ST. DOMINGO TREATY.

Another Urgent Call for Its Ratification.

No Private Interference with the Alabama Claims Negotiation.

THE CANADA FISHERY QUESTION.

Specie Payments, Reforms in the Revenue and Reduction of Taxes.

The Policy of the Administration in a

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Third Session

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec 5, 1870. THE THIRD SESSION OF THE FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS began to-day. Both houses assembled at noon. At r is the presence of a numerous audience in the Almost every member of the Senate attendance. After prayer by the Rev. Dr. Newman, Chaplain of the Senate, the general

THE NEW SENATOR FROM MINNESOTA. he credentials of William Windom, appointed by Governor of Minnesota to fill the place of Hon. D. S. Norton, deceased, were presented by his col-cague, Mr. Ramsey, and read, when Mr. Windom

of the presence of a quorum of the Senate, also a committee in conjunction with a committee of the House to wait upon the President of the United States, and inform him that Congress was ready to receive any communication he might have to

as follows were introduced and laid on the table thatter the organization of the standing com

of the Vermont Legislature, urging the payment of the balance of the war claims due that State from

By Mr. WILLIAMS, (rep.) of Oregon—Bills explanstory of the act admitting the State of Oregon into Union and amendatory of the organic act of the lerricry of Idaho. The former relates to the application of lands for the support of common schools; a of financial termination of the mem-siter regulates the compensation of the mem-of Territorini legislatures. Mr. Prautt, (ret.) of Ind.—To provide for the ap-ment of Clerks of Circuit and District Courts District of Indiana and to define their powers

Mr. KELLOGO, (rep.) of La.—For the removal of

onlineal disabilities.

THE FINANCIAL QUESTION.

By Mr. Sumber, 1721, 10 Mass.—A bill to terminate the mucroation of United States notes and fractional the reserves of the currency, to strengthen the reserves of the national banks and to promote the return to specie payment. The bill provides that the inbrigation of United States notes shall cease immediately after its passage and the government shall cease to pay out or reissue any fractional currency of denominations less than twenty-five cents after o denominations less than twenty-five cents after deptender 30, or denominations of twenty-five cents after deptender 30, or of fifty cents after December 30, 1874, at which date all fractional currency in the Tree sury shall be cancelled and destroyed. Section three provides that the Treasurer of the limited States shall retain the interest upon an oonds held by him as security for the circulation of any bank, and issue therefor special gold certificates or deposit without interest, which may be held by the respective banks in whose favor they are issued as part of their legal reserves annot the resumption of specie payments. Section four requires that when a national bank withdraws its bonds held as security for circulation all substitute bonds shall be the four per cent bonds authorized by the act of July 14, 1870. The remaining sections require the withdrawal of all conds bearing other man coin interest, and the substitution in meir pince of coin interest-bearing bonds within sixty days, and increase the amounts of five per cent and four and a half per cent bonds authorized by the act of July 14, 1870, to five hundred millions of each class.

sach class.
Messis, Cole (rep.) and Casserly (dem.), of Cal. Messiz. College of the income tax by the introduced pills to about the income tax by the immediate repeal of all laws authorizing its assessment and collection after the ist day of January

ar. Cole introduced bills as follows:-To abolish comage charges in the mints; to amend the act of July 14, 1870, by repealing the sections which lowered July 14, 1870, by repealing the sections which lowered the duty on brandy and prepared opinm; also a joint resolution defining the rights of settlers on the public lands; also a joint resolution relating to gold notes and united States notes. The latter provides that after June 20, 1871, such notes shall be receivable at their full value for daties on imports. The correspondence with Minister Washburne. Resolutions were introduced and temporarily laid aside, as follows:—

HE CORRESTONDENCE WITH MINISTER WASHBURNE. Resolutions were introduced and temporarily laid aside, as follows:

By Mar. Ferron, (rep.) of N. Y.—Requesting the President to communicate all the correspondence between the United States Minister at Paris and the Scoretary of State since the broaking out of the war between France and Prussia, so far as the same relates to political subjects and matters connected with the said war, as well as to the protection of subjects of the North Germ in Confederation with which the United States Legation in Paris has been charged. After the President's Message was read the featilition was passed.

MISCHLANSOTS ITEMS.

By Mr. Correct the President's Message was read the featilition was passed.

MISCHLANSOTS ITEMS.

By Mr. Correct the Improvement of Umpqua and Williamette rivers above Oregon City, in Oregon.

By Mr. Sumner.—For information concerning the condition and financial management of the colored schools of Washington and Georgetown, D. C., and as to the extent to which the educational needs of the colored population are provided for.

Mr. Saulsburg, (dem.) of Md., remarked that the result of the recont elections in the border States ought to warrant an investigation by Congress as to what had become of the fitteenth amendment and the act enforcing it.

A resolution, offered by Mr. Trumbull, (rep.) of fil., was adopted, directing the Secretary of the forms of entries, caths, bonds, rules and regulations preactived by him under the act of July 14, 1870, providing for the immediate transportation of merchandise from ports of early to ports of delivery.

Mr. Sherman, (rep.) of Ohio, made an ineffectual effort to get up the bill ceding certain jurisdiction to the State of Ohio, referring to the reception of votes of immates of solders' asylams.

At half-past one the President's Message was received and the next hour was occupied in its reading by the Secretary. It was then ordered to be printed.

printed.
At twenty-five minutes to three the Senate ad-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5, 1870.

THE WELCOME GREETING.

The opening of the third session of the Forty-first Congress was attended with the usual pleasant greetings between members. But very iew and urrived in the city to Saturday morning, and consequently there had been little chance for the interchange of friendly inquiries and assurances until tae members met each other on the floor and in the corridors of the House. The results of the recent

of regret on the defeat of the many. The morning was as warm and balmy as if the month had been September and not December, and, therefore, the residents and visitors of Washington turned out in great numbers to witness the opening of the session. The galleries and corridors of the House were

The galleries and corridors of the House were crowded with spectators. The House was called to order at noon by Mr. Speaker Blaque. The proceedings were opened with prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. Dr. J. G. Butler. The roll of members was then called. One hundred and seventy-three members answered to their names. Excuses were made for Kerr. of Indiana, and Calkin, of New York, who were detained at home by severe illness.

On motion of Mr. Sourseck, (rep.) of Ohio, a committee was appointed to join a like committee on the part of the Senate to wait on the President of the United States and inform him that Congress was in session and ready to receive any communication he might deem proper to make. Messrs. Sch-nck, Allison, (rep.) of lowa, and Petter, (dem.) of N. Y., were appointed such committee on the part of the House.

were appointed such committee on the part of the House.

NEW MEMERS.

J. H. Sypher. (rep.) was aworn in as member from the First district of Louisians: Joseph Dixon, (rep.) from the Second district of North Carolina. R. W. Duke, after an unsuccessful effort on the part of Messrs. Schenck and Platt to have his credenials referred to the Committee on Elections, was called upon to take the oath as member from the Fifth district of Virginia, but was not present.

The House then, at one o'clock, took a recess till a quarter to two o'clock, awaiting the reception of the President's Message.

DUES WINS.

The recess having expired. Mr. Duke, member elect from Virginia, presented himself and took the oath of Office.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE to Conclusion of the Message was received with application bill was reported by Mr. Dawks, (rep.) of Mass., and passed.

The House then, at three o'clock, adjourned.

THE MESSAGE.

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTA

A year of peace and general presperity to this nation has passed since the last assembling of Congress. We have, through a kind Providence, been blessed with abundant crops and have been spared from complications and war with foreign nations. In our midst comparative harmony has been re-

THE RESCRIVE PRANCHISE

has, by violence and intimidation, been denied to citizens in exceptional cases in several of the States lately in rebellion, and the verdict of the people has thereby been reversed. The States of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas have been restored to representa tion in our national councils.

Georgia, the only State new without a representa-tion, may confidently be expected to take her place there also at the beginning of the new year, and then, let us hope, will be completed the work of reconstruction. With an acquiescence on the part of the whole people in the national obligation to pay the public debt-created as the price of our Unionthe pensions to our disabled soldiers and sailors and their widows and orphans, and in the changes to the constitution which have been made neces sary by a great rebellion there is no reason why we should not advance in material prosperity and happiness as no other na-OUR MINISTER IN PARIS.

Soon after the existing war broke out in Europe the protection of the United States Minister in Paris was invoked in favor of North Germans domiciled in French territory. Instructions were issued to grant the protection. This has been followed by an extension of American protection to citizens of Sax-ony, Hesse and Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Columbia, Portugai, Uruguay, the Dominican republic, Ecuador, Caile, Paraguay and Venezuela in Paris. The charge was an onerous one, requiring constant and severe labor, as well as the exercise of patience, prudence and good judgment. It has been per formed to the entire satisfaction of the government, and, as I am officially informed, equally so to the

RECOGNITION OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC. soon as I learned that a republic the people of France had acquiesced in the change the Minister of the United States was directed by telegraph to recognize it and tender my congratulations and these of the people of the United States. The re-establishment in France of a system of government disconnected with the dynastic traditions of Europe appeared to be a proper subject for the felicitations of in attracting the hearts of the French to our simpler forms of representative government it will be a sub ject of still further satisfaction to our people. While we make no effort to impose our institutions upon the inhabitants of other countries, and while we adhere to our traditional neutrality in to the spread of American political ideas in a great and highly civilized country like France. We were asked by the new government to use our good of-fices jointly with those of European Powers in the interests of peace. Answer was made that the established policy and the true interests of the United States forbade them to interfere in European ques tions jointly with the European Powers. I ascer tained informally and unofficially that the government of North Germany was not then disposed to listen to such representations from any Powers, and though earnestly wishing to see the blessings of peace restored to the belligerents-with all of whom the United States are on terms of friendship. I declined, on the part of this government, to take a step which would only

the belligerents—with all of whom the United States are on terms of friendship. I declined, on the part of this government, to take a step which would only result in injury to out the interests without acvancing the object for which our intervention was invoked. Should the time come when the action of the United States can hastes the return of peace by a single hour that action will be heartly taken.

I deemed it prudent, in view of the number of persons of German and Frence birth living in the United States, to issue, soon after official notice of a state of war had been received from both the belligerents, a proclamation defining the duties of the United States as a neutral and the obligations of persons residing within their territory to observe their laws and tae laws of nations. This proclamation was followed by others as circumstances seemed to call for them. The people, thus acquainted in advance of their duties and obligations, have assisted in preventing violations of the neutrality of the United States.

It is not understood that the condition of the insurrection in Cuba has materially changed since the close of the last session of Congress. In an early singe of the contest the authorities of Spain manigurated a system of arbitrary arrests, of close confinement, and of military trial and execution of persons sinspected of completty with the Insurgents, and of summary embargo of their properties and sequestration of their revenues by executive warrant. Such proceedings, so far as they affected the persons or property of citizens of the United States, were in violation of the provisions of the Treaty of 1735 between the United States and Spain. Representations of injuries resulting to several persons claiming to be citizens of the United States, were in violation of the provisions of the Treaty of 1735 between the United States and Spain. Representations of injuries resulting to several persons of such violations were made to the Spainsh government. From April, 1866, to June last the Spainsh military tr

swarded to the limited states the same of a control is gold, which has alone been paid by the imperial government. These recent examples show that the mode which the United States have proposed to Spain for adjusting the pending claims is just and feasible, and that it may be agreed to by eliher nation without dishonor. It is to be begoed that this mode further delay. Should the pending negotiations unfortunately and unexpectedly be without result it will then become my duty to communicate that fact to Congress and invite its action on the subject.

Frain and the allied South American republics has been inaugurated in Washington under the supplies of the United States. Pursuant to the Presentatives of the 17th of December; 1803, the Executive Department of the Office. It was a conference was arranged and was opened in the executive states of the 17th of December; 1803, the Executive Department of the Office. United States, Pursuant to the acceptance of the Office. Ultimately, however, a conference was arranged and was opened in this city on the 20th of October last, as which I sulfur-space of the Office. Ultimately, however, a conference was arranged and was opened in this city on the 20th of October last, as which I sulfur-space of the Office. Ultimately, however, a conference was arranged and was opened in this city on the 20th of October last, as which I sulfur-space of the Office. Ultimately, however, a conference was arranged and was opened in this foundor, If Quantum the attendance of a plenipolethary from that republic outside Spain, Pern, while and foundor. If Quantum the sulfur sulfu a picture it is easy to see how our large debt abroad is ultimately to be extinguished. With a balance of trade against us, including interest of bonds held by foreigners and money shipments by our citizens travelling in foreign lands equal to the eatire yield of precious metals in this country, it is not so easy to see how this result is to be otherwise accomplished. The acquisition of St. Domingo is an adherence to the Monroe doctrine—is a measure of national protection. It is asserting our just claim to a controlling inducace over the great commercial trade soon to flow from West to East by way of the 1sthmus of Darien, which is to build up our merchant marine. It is to turnish new markets for the products of our farms, shops and manufactories; it is to make slavery insupportable in Cuba and Porto Rico at once, and ultimately so in Brazil; it is to estile the ushappy condition of Cuba and end an extirminatory conflict; it is to

cups and end an extriminatory conflict; it is to provide honest menas of paying our honest debta without over-taxing the people; it is to furnish our citizens with the necessaries of every-day life at cheaper rates than ever before; and it is, in fine, a rapid stride towards that greatness which the intelligence, industry and enterprise of the citizens of the United States entitle this ceuntry to assume among nations. In view of the importance of this question fearnessty urge apon Congress early action expressive of its views as to the oest means of acquiring St. Domingo. My suggestion is that by joint resolution of the two houses of Congress the Executive be authorized to appoint a commission to negotiate a treaty with the authorities of St. Domingo fer the acquisition of that island, and that an appropriation be made to derray the expenses of such commission. The question may then be determined by the action of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution from non-acquisition, that I say calamites, to how the control of the development of the great disadvanages. I must a business of the acquisition of the great disadvanages. I must a business of the control of the great disadvanages of the must be a say calamites, to how the provider of the must be a say of the many calamites, to how the more disadvanages of the carriers of the carriers of the great disadvanages. The policy of the Mexican government in exempting from import duties a large tract of its territory on our borders have not only been furnises, but that it is one provider to the resolution of the resolution of the resolution of the provider of the carriers of the carriers

The ALABAMA CLAIMS.

I regret to say that no conclusion has been reached for the adjustment of the claims against Great Britain growing out of the course adopted by that government during the rebellion. The Cabinet of London, so far as its views have been expressed, does not appear to be willing to concede that her Majesty's government was guilty of negligence, or did or permitted any act during the war for which the United States has just cause of complaint. I therefore recommend Congress to authorize the appointment of a commission is taken on notice to the representative of her Majesty at Washington, and that authorify be given for the settlement of these claims by the United States, so that the government shall have the ownership of the private claims, as well as the responsible control of all the demands against Great Britain. It sannot be necessary to add that whenever her Majesty's government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment of these claims the United States will enter upon their consideration with an earnest desire for a conclusion consistent with the honor and dignity of both nations.

The codine pursued by the Canadian authorities towards the dishermen of the United States during the past season has not been marked by a friendly feeling. By the first article of the cenvention of 1818 between Great Britain and the United States it was agreed that the inhabitants of the United States it was agreed that the inhabitants of the United States it was agreed that the inhabitants of the United States it was agreed that the inhabitants of the United States it was agreed that the inhabitants of the British cost) it has been the custom for twenty years to give to intruding fishermen of the United States are somable warning of their vielation of the British cossi) it has been the custom for twenty years to give to intruding the horize of the Bunited States a reasonable warning of their vielation of the technical rights of Great Britain. The imperial government is anderstood to have deleg retted. It is not knewn that any condemnations have been made under this statute. Should the authorities of Canada attempt to enforce it it will become my duty to take such steps as may be necessary to protect the rights of the cutters of the United States. It has been calimed by her Majesty's officials that the fishing vessels of the United States have no right to enter the open ports of the British possessions in North America, except for the purpose of shelter and repairing damages, for purchasing wood and obtaining water; that they have no right to enter at the British Custom Houses or to trade there, except for the purchase of wood and water, and that they must depart within twenty-four hours after notice to leave. It is not known that any solater of a fishing vessel carrying the flag of the United States has been made under this claim. So far as the claim is founded on an alleged construction of the convention of 1818 it cannot be acquiesced in by the United States. It is hoped that it will not be insisted on by her Majesty's government. During the conference which preceded the negotiation of the convention of 1818 its British Commissioners proposed to expressly exclude the fishermen of the United States from the privilege of carrying on trade with any of his Britannic Majesty's subjects residing within the limits assigned for their use, and also that it should not be "lawful for the vessels of the United States engaged in such fishery to have en board any geous, wares or merchandles whatever, except such as may be necessary of the prosecution of their woyages to and from said fishing grounds; and any vessel of the United States which shall contravene this regulation may be setzed, condemned and confiscated, with her cargo." This proposition, which is identical with the construction of the privilege to the fisher have and accommission, and thereupon abandoned by the British Pienipotentaries, and not upon the convention, was capphatically rejected by the Anaerican Commission, and thereupon abandoned by the

loome necessary, to suspend the operation of any laws whereby the vessels of the Domision of Camada are permitted to enter the waters of the United States, a like untiredily dispesition has been manifested on the part of Camada in the maintenance of the United States from the navigation of the St. of the United States from the navigation of the St. the ocean for eight States, with an aggregate pepulation of about 17,800,000 inhabitants, and with an aggregate tennage of 641,857 tons upon the waters which discharge inte it. The foreign commerce of our ports on these waters is open to British competition, and the major part of it is done in British bettoms. If the American seames be excluded from this natural avenue to the ocean the monopoly of the direct commerce of the lake ports with the Atlantic would be in foreign hands; their vessels on Iransatiantic voyages alwing an access to our lake ports, which would be denied to American vessels on Ismalar voyages. To state such a proposition is to refuse its justice, burned the administration is to refuse its justice, burned the administration of the contract of the contrac

nt claim to which her Canadian provinces have

ing to a remedy for this evil, even if it should be at some cost to the national treasury. I hope such encouragement will be given as will insure American shipping on the high seas and American shipping and tong.

The STATE DEPARTMENT BUILDING.

The condition of the archives of the Department to State calls for the early action of Congress. The building now rented by that department is a frail structure, at an inconvenient distance from the Executive Mansjon and from the other departments. It is ill adapted to the purpose for which it is used, has not capacity to accommedate the archives and is not fire proof. Its remote situation, its slender construction, and the absence of a supply of water in its neighborhood, leave but little hope of safety for either the building or its contents in case of the accident of a fire. Its desiruction would involve the loss of the rolls containing the original acts and resolutions of Congress, of the historic records of the Revolution and of the constitution, and of the many other valuable records and papers left with that department when it was the principal depesitory of the governmental archives. I recommend an appropriation for the constitution of a building for the Department of State.

I recommend to your reconsideration the propriety of referring to the Department of the interior, to which they seem more appropriately to belong, all powers and duties in relation to the Territories with which the Department of State is now charged by law or usage, and from the Interior Department to the War Department of the history powers and duties in relation to the territories with which the Department of the actions of the Navy Department.

The Firshock and from the Interior Department to the War Department of the consecutions for the present year for the same items \$8,972,127. In this certificate, however, is included \$22,338,278 for public works heretofore begun unde

legislation, Congress should been to a poncy which place our currency at par with gold at no distant day.

The "arrorms in the Bevenue."

The tax collected from the beople has been reduced more than eighty million deliars per annum. By steadness in our present course there is no reason why in a few short years the national lax gatherer may not disappear from the door of the citizen almost entirely. With the revenue stamp dispensed by postmasters in every community, a tax upon liquors of all sorts and tobacce in all its forms, and by a wise adjustment of the fariff, which will put a duty only upon these articles which we could dispense with, known as luxuries, and on those which we use more of than we produce, revenue enough may be raised, after a few years of peace and consequent reduction of indebtedness, to fulfit all our obligations. A further reduction of expenses, in addition to a reduction of interest account, may be relied on to make inits practicable. Revenue reform, if it means this, has my hearty support. If it impries a collection of all the revenue for the support of the government, for the payment of the principal and interest of the public debt, pensions, &c., by directly taxing the people, then I am against revenue reform and confidently believe the people are with me. If it means failure to provide the necessary means to defray all expenses of the government, and thereby repudiation of the public debt and ensisted the subt all expenses of the government, and thereby repudiation of the public debt and ensisted the subt all expenses of the government, and thereby repudiation of the public debt and ensisted the subt all expenses of the government, and thereby repudiation of the public debt and ensisted and ensisted all expenses of the government, and thereby repudiation of the public debt and ensisted and e revenue relorm and confidently believe the people are with me. If it means failure to provide the necessary means to defray all expenses of the government, and thereby repudiation of the public debt and pensions, then I am still more opposed to such kind of revenue reform. Revenue reform has not been dedined by any of its advocates, to my knowledge, but seems to be accepted as semething which is to supply every man's wants without any cost or effort on his part. A true revenue reform cannot be made in a day, but must be the work of national legislation and of time. As soon as the revenue can be dispensed with all duty should be removed from coffee, tea and other articles of universal use not produced by ourselves. The necessities of the country compel us to cellect revenue from our imports. An army of assessors and collectors is not a pleasant sight to the citizen, but that or a tariff for revenue is necessary. Such a tariff, so far as it acts as an encouragement to home products, affords employment to labor at living wages in contrast to the pauper lator of the Old World, and also in the development of home resources.

Ender the act of Cougress of July 15, 1870, the army has gradually been reduced, so that en tise 1st of January, 1871, the number of commissioned officers and men will not exceed the number of commissioned officers and men will not exceed the number of commissioned officers and men will not exceed the number of commissioned officers and men will not exceed the number of commissioned officers and the department building is an old structure, not fireproof and entirely inadequate in dimensions to our present wants. Many thousands of dollars are now paid annually for rent of private buildings to accommodate the various bureaus of the department. I recommend an appropriation for a new War Department building suited to the present and growing wants of the nation. The report of the Secretary of War shews a very satisfactory reduction in the expenses of the army for the last float year. For details you are the sufficiently reduced in the last year—4. e., from December, 1809—the date of the last year—4. e., from December, 1809—the date of the last year—4. e., from December, 1809—the date of the last year—4. e., since July 1—show, for the five months a decrease of over \$2,400,000 from those of the corresponding months last year. The estimates for the current year were \$28,205,671. These for next year are \$28,205,671. These for next year are \$29,083,317, with \$89.5,100 additional for necessary permanent improvements. These estimates are made closely for the mer maintenance of the naval establishment, as it now is, without much in the nature of permanent imprevement. The appropriation of the naval on the sufficient only to keep the navy on its present testing by the repairing and refitting of our old snips. This policy must of course gradually but surely festroy the navy and its in itself far from economical, as each year that it is pursued the necessity for more repairs in ships and navy yards becomes more imperative and more costly, and our current expenses are annually increased for the mercent per surface of the surfac

sions, who would undertage the work on the same terms—t... as a missionary work. The societies selected are allowed to mane their own agents, subject to the approval of the Executive, and are expected to wap over them an aid them as missionaries and Christianize and civilize the indian and to train fine in the arts of peace. The government watches over the official acts of these agents and required of them as strict an accountability as if they were appointed in any other manner. I entertain the quantity of them as strict an accountability as if they were appointed in any other manner. I entertain the quantity of the pursuing peaceful and self-sustaining avocations, and where they will live in houses, have schoolhouses and churches and will be pursuing peaceful and self-sustaining avocations, and where they may be visited by the law-unding white men with the report of the Commissioner of indian Affairs for full information on this subject.

The remainder was located with military warrant, cyllege of indian gorle, or applied in satisfaction of grants to railroads of for other public uses. The entires under the Homestead law during the last second of the mens applied to the full grant of the mensuing the preceding year. Surveys have been vigorously profecuate to the full grants of the mensus applied in satisfaction of grants to railroads of for other public uses. The entires under the Homestead law during the last second will amply supply the presented to the full grates of the mensus applied to the full grates of the mensus applied in the settler under the Homestead or Pre-emption laws is not, however, limited to land subject to sale at private enter. Any unappropriated surveyed pablic lands may, to a limited to land subject to sale at private enter. Any unappropriated surveyed pablic lands may, to a limited to land subject to sale at private of the mensus applied and the progrand of the second of the second of the enter under them will comply with the requirements they presented in regard to residence and culti

corporations 2,788,625,7631-100 acres for railways, canais and wagon roads. It is estimated that an additional quantity of 174,785,523 acres is still due for grants for like uses.

The policy of thus aiding the States in building works of internal improvement was inaugurated more than forty years since in the grants to indiana and illinois to aid those States in opening canals to connect the waters of the Wabash with those of Lake Erle and the waters of lilinois with those of Lake Michigan. It was followed with some modifications in the grant to illinois of aiternate sections of public land within certain limits of the illinois Central Railway. Fourteen States and sundry corporations have received similar subsidies in connection with railways completed or in process of construction. As the several sections are rated at the double minimum the sale of them at the enhanced price has thus in many instances indemnified the Treasury for the granted land. The construction of some of these thoroughfares has undoubtedly given a vigorous imputus to the development of our resources and the settlement of the more distant portions of the country. It may, however, be well instead that much of our legislation in this regard has been characterized by indiscriminate and profuse liberality. The United States should not loan their credit in aid of any enterprise undertaken by States or corporations nor grant lands in any instance unless the projected work is of acknowledged materiat importance. I am strongly inclined to the opinion that it is inexpedient and unnecessary to bestow subsidies of eitner description; but should Congress determine otherwise I earnestly recommend that the right of estuers and of the public be more effectually secured and protected by appropriate legislation.

The Parkent Orfice Businkess.

During the year ending September 30, 1870, there were filed in the Patent Office 19,411 applications for patents, 3,574 caveats and 160 applications for the extension of patents; 13,622 patents, including ressues and

of its expenditures.

THE CENSUS.

The work of the Census Bureau has been ener getically presecuted. The preliminary report containing much information of special value and interest, will be ready for delivery during the present session. The remaining volumes will be completed with all the despetch consistent with perfect accuracy in arranging and classifying the returns. We shall thus, at no distant day, be furnished with an authentic record of our condition and resources. It will, I doubt not attest the growing prosperity of the country, although suring the decade which has just closed it was so severely tried by the great war waged to maintain its integrity and to secure and perpetuate our free institutions.

Its integrity and to secure and perpetuate our free institutions.

THE PENSION FUND.

During the last fiscal year the sum paid to pensieners, including the cost of disbursement, was \$27,780,811, and 1,758 bounty land warrants were issued. At its close 198,686 names were on the pension rolls. The labors of the Pension Office have been directed to the severe scrutny of the evidence submitted in favor of law claims and to the discovery of fictitious claims, which have been heretofore allowed. The appropriations for the employment of special agents for the investigation of frands have been judiciously used, and the results obtained have been of unquestionable benefit to the service.

ebtained have been of unquestionable benefit to the service.

The EDUCATIONAL AND AGRICULTURAL BUREAUS.

The subjects of education and agriculture are of great interest to the success of our republican institutions, and our happiness and grandeur as a nation. In the interest of one a bureau has been established in the laterior Department—the Bureau of Education; and in the interest of the other a separate department—that of Agriculture. I believe great general good is to flow from the operations of both of these bureaus, if properly fostered I cannot commend to your careful consideration too highly the reports of the Commissioners of Education and of Agriculture, not urge too strongly such liberal legislation as to secure their officiency.

THE POLICY OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN A NUTSHELL.

In conclusion, I would sum up the policy of the administration to be a thorough enforcement of every law; a saishful collection of the tax provided for; economy in the disbursement of the same; a prompt payment of every debt of the nation; a reduction of taxes as rapidly as the requirements of the country will admit, reductions of taxation and tarriff to be so arranged as to afford the greatest relief to the greatest numbers; honest and fair dealings with all other people to the end that war with all its blighting consequences may be avoided, but without surrendering any right or obligation due to us; a reform in the treatment of Indians and in the whole civil service of the country; and anally, in securing a pure, untrammelled. dians and in the whole civil service of the country; and finally, in securing a pure, untrammelled ballot, where every man entitled te cast a vote may do so just once at each election without fear of molestation or proscription on account of his political faith, nativity or color.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 5, 1870.

MYSTERIOUS MOVEMENTS.

The United States Grand Jury After the Otfenders-Cubans or Frenchmen Suspected of Violating the Neutrality Laws.

The United States Grand Jury yesterday brought in several true bills of indictment against parties for violation of the neutrality laws, but as the forefer violation of the neutrality laws, but as the fore-man of the jury handed the bills to the Court with-out making the usual anaouncement of the parties named therein it was impossible to ascertain who they were. Rumor has it, however, that they are a lot of Frenchmen er Cubans—probably the for-mer—who have been detected in fitting out an ex-pedition against peoples with whom thus govern-ment is at peace. Up to a very late heur last night no arrests had been made, and probably will not be until this morning.

SOMNAMBULA IN BROOKLYN. A young lady, who resides with her parents at

A young lady, who resides with her parents at No. 60 Adams street, Brooklyn, has been in the habit of getting up in her sleep at all hours of night and walking about the premises. At one time she was mistaken for a burgiar, and at another for a ghost. Yosterday morning her perambulations nearly cost her her life. She left her bed shortly before one o'clock, and not long thereafter her father was attracted by her screams. Hastening to her room a treated by her screams. Hastening to her room to lound her hanging out of the window head downwards and with her feet clasped by the window sash, which had providentially fallen in time to save a ner life. Omeer Be—, of the Second precinct, was also attracted by t screams of the young lady and instened to the assistance of her father, and they together succeeded in pulling her back into the room. She was only slightly injured, being bruised about the ankle to the window falling upon her.